

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BUCAR 02253 232122Z

63

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07

L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-05

TRSE-00 SAJ-01 AID-05 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03 XMB-02

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FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

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INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN VIA POUCH

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMCONSUL MUNICH

USIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUCHAREST 2253

GENEVA FOR US CSCE DEL

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EGEN, PFOR, RO

SUBJ: ROMANIAN VIEWS ON CEMA

REF: A) BUCH A-124 (MAY 10, 1974) B) BUCH A-132 (MAY 13, 1974)

1. SUMMARY: TWO AUTHORITATIVE ARTICLES APPEARING SIMULTANEOUSLY
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PAGE 02 BUCAR 02253 232122Z

IN ROMANIAN CENTRAL PARTY PRESS HAVE KICKED OFF WHAT PROMISES

TO BE LENGTHY AND SPIRITED PUBLIC POLEMIC ON CEMA. REPEATING THEMES THAT APPEARED IN LAST YEAR'S OPEN DEBATE, WHICH PRECEDED SOFIA CEMA MEETING, SEE REFAIRS)--INSISTENCE ON ROMANIAN SOVEREIGNTH AND ECONOMIC AUTONOMY AND RIGHT TO ENJOY ECONOMIC RELATIONS WITH ALL COUNTRIES, REJECTION OF ANY "SUPRA-NATIONAL" AUTHORITY FOR CEMA, DEMAND FOR EVENTUAL PARITY AMONG INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT LEVELS OF CEMA STATES-- THIS YEAR'S ARTICLES ARE SOMEWHAT HARsher IN THEIR CRITICISM OF UNNAMED (PRESUMABLY SOVIET OR CEMA) PLANNERS AND THEORETICIANS WHO ALLEGEDLY ADVOCATE A FORM OF INTEGRATION IN WHICH THE INDIVIDUAL ECONOMIES OF MEMBER COUNTRIES WOULD PROGRESSIVELY BE SUBORDINATED AND DISSOLVED. END SUMMARY.

2. AS LAST YEAR, ROMANIA IS PUBLICLY SETTING OUT ITS POSITION ON CEMA IN PREPARATION FOR THE UPCOMING HEADS-OF-GOVERNMENT CEMA CONFERENCE. LEADING OFF THE POLEMIC IS A HARD-HITTING ARTICLE IN SCINTEIA MAY 20 BY PROF ERVIN HUTIRA, PRO-RECTOR OF RCP'S STEFAN GHEORGHU ACADEMY AND IOAN ERHAN. WIELDING TOUGHER LANGUAGE THAN WAS THE RULE LAST YEAR, AUTHORS CASTIGATE "CERTAIN ERRONEOUS OPINIONS" AND "VIEWS, LACKING THEORETICAL FOUNDATION" (PRESUMABLY THOSE OF SOVIET, PERHAPS OTHER, CEMA THEORETICIANS) WHICH CALL FOR THE "MANAGEMENT OF THE ECONOMY OF THE SOCIALIST COUNTRIES AT THE LEVEL OF THE ENTIRE COMMUNITY," THE CREATION OF A "UNIFIED AGRO-INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX FOR CEMA MEMBERS," AND SIMILAR MEASURES WHICH WOULD "DISSOLVE" NATIONAL ECONOMIES INTO A "SINGLE AMORPHOUS UNIT." THE GOAL OF EVENTUAL EQUALITY IN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CANNOT BE USED TO JUSTIFY ANY SORT OF REGIONAL OR SUPRA-NATIONAL ECONOMIC ORGANIZATION THAT WOULD PREJUDICE NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE OR SOVEREIGNTY, THE AUTHORS ARGUE. THEY DEFINE "SOCIALIST ECONOMIC INTEGRATION" (A PHRASE ACCEPTED ONLY GURDINGLY BY ROMANIA) AS RULING OUT SUPRANATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS OR IN ANY WAY AFFECTING A NATION'S INTERNAL ECONOMIC, TECHNICAL, SCIENTIFIC, OR FINANCIAL PLANNING.

3. A COMPANION PIECE IN ERA SOCIALISTA (NO. 10, 1975) BY GHEORGHE CRETOIU, WHILE SOMEWHAT Milder IN TONE, LAUNCHES A SIMILAR ATTACK AGAINST "SOME AUTHORS" WHO WOULD PROPOSE CLOSER ECONOMIC INTEGRATION AMONG CEMA COUNTRIES, LEADING EVENTUALLY TO A "SINGLE INTERNATIONAL PROCESS OF REPRODUCTION

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 BUCAR 02253 232122Z

INTO WHICH THE NATIONAL ECONOMIES OF PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES ALLEGEDLY WOULD DISSOLVE, GRADUALLY LOSING THEIR IDENTITY." WHILE CEMA COOPERATION HAS TAKEN ON SOME "NEW FORMS", SUCH AS LONG-TERM PLAN COORDINATION, JOINT PLANNING OF CERTAIN (LIMITED) TYPES OF PRODUCTS, AND CREATION OF CERTAIN INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORGANIZATIONS THE MOVEMENT TOWARD THESE NEW FORMS "CANNOT BE FORCED," AUTHOR WARNS, NOR DO THEY NECESSARILY REPLACE MORE STANDARD TYPES OF COOPERATION TRAD-

ITIONAL TO CEMA AND OUTLINED IN THE CEMA COMPLEX PROGRAM.

4. AN ADDITIONAL, BRIEFER COMMENT ON CEMA IS TACKED ON TO AN ARTICLE ON RELATIVE ECONOMIC GROWTH RATES AMONG THE "SOCIALIST" COUNTRIES IN MAY 22 FOREIGN AFFAIRS WEEKLY LUMEA. AUTHOR NOTES THAT ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE, (WHICH, HOWEVER, LEAVE ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT) HAVE BEEN ATTAINED ON BASIS OF EACH COUNTRY'S RIGHT TO STEER ITS OWN ECONOMIC COURSE, A RIGHT THAT MUST BE PRESERVED.

5. COMMENT: THE RECENT ARTICLES STRIKE US AS MORE NEGATIVE IN TONE EVEN THAN THOSE OF LAST YEAR TOWARD SOVIET CONTROL IN CEMA. WHILE ERA SOCIALISTA MAKES THE MOLLIFYING POINT THAT THE BULK OF ROMANIA'S FOREIGN TRADE WILL CONTINUE TO BE WITH THE SOCIALIST COUNTRIES, ACCOMPANYING TRADE GROWTH FIGURES SHOW THAT TRADE WITH THE USSR, FOR ONE, HAS INCREASED AT A MUCH SLOWER RATE THAN WITH MOST OTHER "SOCIALIST" TRADE PARTNERS, A FACT NOT LOST ON THE SOVIETS, WHO APPARENTLY HAVE PRESSED FOR AN INCREASE IN THE 1975 BILATERAL TRADE VOLUME. AND LITTLE SPACE IS DEVOTED TO EXPLORING WAYS IN WHICH CEMA COOPERATION COULD USEFULLY BE EXPANDED, AS WAS DONE LAST YEAR. THE ARTICLES ARE CONFINED LARGELY TO POLITICAL POLEMIC, WITH QUOTATIONS FROM MARX AND LENIN USED TO SUPPORT THE NEED TO RETAIN SUTONOMOUS NATIONAL ECONOMIES FOR THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE. THE OVERALL IMPRESSION IS THAT ROMANIA FEELS THEORETICAL GROUNDWORK IS BEING LAID TO PUSH THE CEMA COUNTRIES INTO A SMOTHERING INTEGRATION WHICH WILL DILUTE NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE AND SOVEREIGNTY, AND IS ONCE MORE DIGGING IN HER HEELS TO STOP OR AT LEAST SLOW THE ADVANCE.

6. HUNGARIAN SOURCE HERE, ALLEGING ROMANIANS "HAVE PROCLIVITY FOR KNOCKING DOWN STRAW MEN," CLAIMS "NO ONE" IN CEMA IS BOOSTING INTEGRATION AS SWEEPINGLY AS ROMANIAN ARTICLES ASSERT. CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 BUCHAR 02253 232122Z

WE'D WELCOME MOSCOW'S ASSESSMENT ON WHETHER CEMA "PLANNERS AND THEORETICIANS" ARE IN FACT COUCHING MATTERS AS ABOVE. END COMMENT. VIETS

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